

OFFICE OF
ARLINGTON HOTEL,

J. W. WHITE, PROP'R.

Danville, Ill., Aug 13th 1888

Prof Serrin. Milton

My dear Sir - I enclose a
head and a lower leaf - of a *Liatris*,
that I am unable to put the specific
name to. Some of its prominent charact-
eristics do not seem to be mentioned at all,
in the Manual. For instance the strongly
incurved tips of the scales of the involucre,
with eroded edges & scales being loosely
spreading, then strongly incurved at the ends,
I should think would be noted, also the erosion.
The stem is rather slender 3 to 4 ft high,
from a globular corm, leafy, but not as
much so as *L. spicata* or *L. psychnostachya*,
lower leaves linear spatulate, becoming linear
and small, towards top. papus very plumose,
corolla hairy within, at base of stamens. spike
6 to 15 inches long, heads rather large, 20 to 30

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flowered, and from $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch apart on the spike or raceme. Scales numerous dotted. It seems to go nodily enough under **, but I don't find anything there describing it well. *L. squarrosa* having "leaflets spreading tips" which this certainly has not, and *L. cylindracea* being but 6' to 8' high with "rounded appressed tips" to its scales, and these certainly are not appressed. I want to call your attention to an evident error in Gray's Manual, probably typographical, though. Under *Scutellaria canescens*, it says "upper lip of corolla shorter than the lower". Now Wood says "longer", Gray himself says "longer" in his own *Synoptical Flora*, and the plant itself says "longer" - so it must be an error in the Manual. I enclose a newspaper cutting, but suppose it refers to nothing botanically new. I enclose stamped envelope for your kind reply.

Very Truly
R. H. Ingham